

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY Poland REPORT 25X1

SUBJECT Franciszek Mazur's Influence with the Soviet Politburo DATE DISTR. 14 October 1955 25X1

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. 25X1

1. In the opinion of several members of the PZPR (Polish United Workers Party) Central Committee, the Soviet Politburo has absolute confidence in Franciszek Mazur, Secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and has given him the responsibility of communicating Soviet policy instructions to top PZPR leaders. Although in official government life Mazur holds a position of relatively minor political significance, that of Deputy Marshal of the Sejm and Deputy Chairman of the Council of State, he is a very powerful figure in Party matters. In the Central Committee of the PZPR he is responsible for the Organization Branch (Wydzial Organizacyjny), and in the government he is responsible for the various ministries concerned with industrial development and planning, as well as the PKPG (State Commission on Economic Planning).
2. Although Boleslaw Bierut, Party First Secretary, appears to have the highest official authority, in actual fact ultimate political control is in the hands of Mazur.¹

1. Comment: Mazur has had considerable influence with the Soviet Communists for a long period of time and is considered to be the most likely successor to Bierut. 25X1

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1. Boleslaw Bierut's recent public appeal for the return of Polish emigres was made upon specific instructions from the Soviet Politburo. Nikita S. Krushchev maintained that such a gesture, coupled with Bierut's official assurance that Polish returnees would be warmly received in their homeland, would create an atmosphere of Communist goodwill immediately prior to the Geneva Conference and would have an important secondary effect by "destroying centers of defeatism." 25X1
2. The PZPR (Polish United Workers Party) Central Committee voiced strong objections to such an appeal on the grounds that returning emigres would constitute a corrosive and destructive element of the population and would have little of positive economic value to offer the State. To be sure, these objections by the PZPR leaders were overruled, and Bierut complied with the Soviet instructions. However, the objectors remained skeptical, expecting the appeal to meet with relatively little success.

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COUNTRY Poland
SUBJECT Cancellation of Appointment of Henryk Jambor as New Polish Commercial Attache to Hungary
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Henryk Jambor, who in July 1955 was expected to be appointed as Commercial Attache to Hungary, will not be appointed. He apparently quarreled with other directors of the Centrozap state trade agency, and in the subsequent arbitration of the quarrel his nomination to the post was withdrawn.

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COUNTRY

Poland/North Korea

REPORT

SUBJECT

Polish Medical Mission
in North Korea

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1. The Polish Medical Mission to North Korea consists of approximately 20 doctors and 10 nurses, headed by Dr. Tadeusz Orłowski. Its purpose is to organize the services at the Polish Red Cross Hospital and in the surrounding district. The mission's first activity was to take over management of the Polish Red Cross hospital at Hungnam, which was transferred in early 1955 to Hamhung, a district center of more than 80,000 inhabitants. An institute for training medical students, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, and sanitary workers is also located in Hamhung, and another such institute is reported to exist in North Korea.

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2. In addition to its practical work the Hamhung hospital serves the district as a means of raising professional standards, as a communications center for the primitive medical institutions in the surrounding district, and as a source of consultation in matters of sanitation and hygiene. The level of the training institute in Hamhung is very low, and the Polish doctors do not have a high regard for either the professional achievements of young graduates or for the knowledge of local medical professors.

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3. The Hamhung hospital is under the Ministry of Health. Dr. Orłowski and all doctors in charge of wards have native assistants who are eventually to replace the Poles. The hospital has three wards for internal diseases, three wards for surgery, one ward for obstetrics and gynecology, one ward for neurological cases, and one ward for ear, eye, nose, and throat diseases. Although each ward has approximately 50 beds, this figure is subject to change. The hospital also has four ambulatory wards for skin diseases, urological cases, tubercular patients, and dental treatment, and two bacteriological laboratories, a radiological laboratory, a dispensary, and a blood bank. While the technical equipment is still rather primitive, it is being constantly improved by replacements from Poland and the Soviet Union.

4. Administration of the hospital is similar to that of Polish medical institutions. As in the case of doctors, matrons in charge of wards are Polish but have Korean assistants. All nurses and administrative personnel are Korean.

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